

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1502

To direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to conduct a yield and cost study of timber management investment opportunities on Federal timberlands in California, Oregon, and Washington, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 1993

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. KOPETSKI, and Mr. HERGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to conduct a yield and cost study of timber management investment opportunities on Federal timberlands in California, Oregon, and Washington, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Timber Management  
5       Improvement Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7       The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Under the timber management policy of  
2       nondeclining even flow, articulated in section 13(a)  
3       of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources  
4       Planning Act of 1974, the allowable sale quantity  
5       for a national forest is a function of total timber  
6       growth, which depends on available timberland area  
7       and the rate of timber growth.

8           (2) Protecting the northern spotted owl and  
9       other factors will lead to reductions in the Federal  
10      land available for timber harvesting, leading to de-  
11      clines in harvests and to undesirable declines in tim-  
12      ber industry employment.

13          (3) Increases in timber management invest-  
14      ments on Federal and other lands not protected as  
15      spotted owl habitat could offset some of the declines  
16      in allowable sale quantities resulting from spotted  
17      owl protection.

18          (4) No separate studies of timber management  
19      investment opportunities on Federal timberlands  
20      have been conducted for more than a decade.

21          (5) The fund established by section 3 of the Act  
22      of June 9, 1930 (16 U.S.C. 576b; commonly re-  
23      ferred to as the “K–V fund”), was originally estab-  
24      lished to assure adequate funding for timber man-  
25      agement investments for the national forests, but

1       since 1976, substantial and increasing portions of  
2       this fund have been used for wildlife habitat im-  
3       provement, watershed improvement, and other  
4       nontimber resource projects.

5       (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to—

6           (1) identify and examine timber management  
7       investment opportunities on Federal timberlands in  
8       the States of California, Oregon, and Washington;

9           (2) expand financial assistance programs for  
10      timber investments on non-Federal timberlands in  
11      the States of California, Oregon, and Washington;  
12      and

13          (3) assure that amounts from the fund estab-  
14      lished by section 3 of the Act of June 9, 1930, are  
15      available for timber management investments on  
16      Federal timberlands, consistent with the original in-  
17      tent of that Act.

18   **SEC. 3. TIMBER MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT STUDY.**

19      (a) YIELDS AND COSTS REPORT.—The Secretary of  
20   Agriculture, acting through the Forest Service, and the  
21   Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of  
22   Land Management, shall each prepare a report displaying  
23   the yields and costs, both financial and environmental, of  
24   timber management investment opportunities for lands  
25   under their respective jurisdictions in the States of Cali-

1    ornia, Oregon, and Washington. Timber management in-  
2    vestment opportunities considered shall include—

3           (1) reforestation, including site preparation, di-  
4           rect seeding, planting, and interplanting; and

5           (2) timber stand improvement, including release  
6           (manual, chemical, and mechanical), fertilization,  
7           pruning, precommercial thinning, and commercial  
8           thinning.

9           (b) LAND AND FOREST CLASS.—The report prepared  
10   under subsection (a) shall present the yield and cost infor-  
11   mation for each of the following:

12           (1) Timber site productivity class.

13           (2) Current forest condition class, including  
14           old-growth, second-growth, sawtimber, poletimber,  
15           saplings, seedlings, and nonstock.

16           (3) Land suitability allocation for timber pro-  
17           duction under the appropriate forest plan.

18           (c) LANDS CLASSIFIED AS UNSUITABLE FOR TIM-  
19   BER PRODUCTION.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall in-  
20   clude in the report required by this section—

21           (1) the reasons why lands in Forest Service Re-  
22           gions 5 and 6 are classified as not suitable for tim-  
23           ber production pursuant to the Forest and Range-  
24           land Renewable Resources Planning of 1974, distin-

1       guishing among timber site productivity classes and  
2       current forest conditions; and

3               (2) the specific identity of those lands deemed  
4       to be unsuitable for timber production solely due to  
5       difficulties in meeting the reforestation requirements  
6       of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources  
7       Planning Act of 1974, and a description of those dif-  
8       ficulties.

9       (d) EXCHANGE AND CONSOLIDATION OF LANDS.—  
10   In addition to other matters required to be included in  
11   the study under this section, the study shall address op-  
12   portunities for land exchanges with private landowners to  
13   consolidate Federal landholdings in the States of Califor-  
14   nia, Oregon, and Washington to enhance reforestation and  
15   timber stand improvement.

16       (e) ADVISORY BOARDS.—In order to assure a com-  
17   prehensive and unbiased report on the costs and yields of  
18   timber management investment opportunities, the Sec-  
19   retary of Agriculture on a forest-by-forest basis in Forest  
20   Service Regions 5 and 6, and the Secretary of the Interior  
21   on a district-by-district basis for the Bureau of Land Man-  
22   agement districts subject to this Act, shall establish and  
23   consult with advisory boards before releasing a draft of  
24   the report required by subsection (a) to the public. The  
25   advisory boards shall be comprised of individuals who, in

1 the appropriate Secretary's judgment, represent a diver-  
2 sity of views. The appropriate Secretaries shall provide the  
3 advisory boards with the opportunity to review and com-  
4 ment on the practices and investments being examined  
5 under subsection (a) and on the draft of the report before  
6 its release to the public. The Federal Advisory Committee  
7 Act shall not apply to advisory boards established under  
8 this subsection.

9 (f) CONSULTATION WITH PRIVATE AND OTHER PUB-  
10 LIC TIMBERLAND OWNERS.—(1) In preparing the report  
11 required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture  
12 and the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with private  
13 and other public timberland owners in the general vicinity  
14 of the forest or district, as appropriate, to—

15 (A) identify possible timber management invest-  
16 ments and practices, and

17 (B) identify potential costs and yields of those  
18 investments and practices.

19 (2) The report shall include information gathered  
20 under this subsection in a manner which protects the pro-  
21 prietary nature of corporate cost information and the cost  
22 and yield estimates of the Secretaries.

23 (g) DATE OF SUBMISSION.—The report required by  
24 this section shall be submitted to the Congress within 1  
25 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. PRIVATE FOREST LANDS.**

2 Section 4 of the Cooperative Forest Assistance Act  
3 of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103) is amended by adding at the  
4 end the following:

5 “(l) Of the amounts appropriated to carry out this  
6 section, not less than \$1,500,000 shall be made available  
7 for assistance under this section in each of the States of  
8 California, Oregon, and Washington for planning, refo-  
9estation, and timber stand improvement practices to fur-  
10ther second growth management of timber resources to  
11offset the expected decline in timber harvests from Federal  
12lands as a result of listing the northern spotted owl as  
13a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act  
14of 1973. Such assistance shall be concentrated in those  
15counties containing Federal lands designated as habitat  
16conservation areas for the purposes of the protection and  
17recovery of the northern spotted owl.”.

18 **SEC. 5. KNUTSON-VANDENBERG ACT.**

19 (a) REFORESTATION OF BLM LANDS.—Section 3 of  
20 the Act of June 9, 1930 (16 U.S.C. 576b) is amended—

21 (1) by inserting “(a)” after “SEC. 3.”; and

22 (2) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(b) Subsection (a) shall apply with respect to the  
24 lands administered by the Secretary of the Interior  
25 through the Bureau of Land Management in the same

1 manner as such subsection applies with respect to national  
2 forest lands.”.

3 (b) REFORESTATION UNDER THE K–V ACT.—Sec-  
4 tion 3(a) of the Act of June 9, 1930 (16 U.S.C. 576b),  
5 as amended by subsection (a) of this Act, is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “or” before “(3)”; and

7 (2) by striking “timber, or (4)” and all that  
8 follows through “*Provided*,” and inserting “timber:  
9 *Provided*,”.

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